

RESOLUTION NO. 688

WHEREAS, Edward L. Barnes was born on August 19, 1933 in Maidsville, West Virginia to Jennings and Lena Barnes; and

WHEREAS, Edward L. Barnes moved from West Virginia to the Pacific Northwest in 1946 settling in Vancouver, Washington where Edward took advantage of the great Northwest outdoors and developed many hobbies such as hunting and fishing; and

WHEREAS, Edward L. Barnes was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1953 and was shipped to Sasebo, Japan and then to Inchon, Korea where he served as Staff Sergeant in the 25th Division – 27th Wolfhound Regiment – 3rd Battalion, Company I whose motto was “longest in Korea, never lost a position and never failed a mission”; and

WHEREAS, Edward L. Barnes married Luanne Wolfe of Portland, Oregon on June 30, 1956 and settled in Vancouver, Washington where they raised a family of three sons who would follow in their father’s footsteps into the electrical industry; and

WHEREAS, Edward L. Barnes entered the electrical apprenticeship program in Vancouver, Washington in 1955 and completed this program in 1959 when he was elected to the IBEW Local 48 Executive Board, a position he held until 1969 when he was elected Vice President. Edward served as Vice President until 1971 when he was elected President and served in this position until 1979; and

WHEREAS, Edward L. Barnes was the local dispatcher and an assistant Business Representative before being elected as Business Manager & Financial Secretary in 1983 for twelve years, until he retired from the IBEW in 1995 culminating a 40 year career; and

WHEREAS, Edward L. Barnes has always believed in giving back to his community through volunteer work, beginning at an early age when he helped his father build the Methodist Church in Vancouver, Washington. Since then, Edward has continued to give back to his community in many ways, currently serving on the Columbia Springs Educational and Environmental Center Board and the Vancouver Public Facilities Development Board; and

WHEREAS, Edward L. Barnes expanded his community service to the state level when he was appointed to the Washington State Transportation Commission by Governor Mike Lowry in June 1995, reappointed by Governor Gary Locke in June 2001, and reappointed by Governor Christine Gregoire in June 2005; and

WHEREAS, Edward L. Barnes has served two consecutive terms for a total of 12 years on the Washington State Transportation Commission; and

WHEREAS, Edward L. Barnes has played an instrumental role on the Washington State Transportation Commission, bringing a strong labor perspective to the many issues facing transportation in Washington State and serving also as a strong advocate for passenger and freight rail; and

WHEREAS, Edward L. Barnes has actively and honorably represented the Washington State Transportation Commission in Southwest Washington in dealing with many challenging transportation issues facing the area, and is known regionally as “Mr. Transportation”; and

WHEREAS, Edward L. Barnes has been involved in all three Columbia River Crossing public processes dating back to 1998, serving as Co-Chairman of the Bi-State Governor’s Portland-Vancouver I-5 Transportation and Trade Partnership Taskforce, and has been actively involved in the Clark County Regional Transportation Council; and

WHEREAS, Edward L. Barnes is retiring from the Washington State Transportation Commission, and his vision, courage, compassion, and leadership in transportation will be sorely missed by all;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington State Transportation Commission recognizes and deeply appreciates the outstanding and endless contribution of Edward L. Barnes to the State of Washington and its transportation system, and wishes him well in his future endeavors.

ADOPTED this 13th day of November 2007.

WASHINGTON STATE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

RICHARD FORD, Chair

ELMIRA FORNER, Vice-Chair

PHILIP PARKER, Member

ROBERT S. DISTLER, Member

CAROL MOSER, Member

DAN O’NEAL, Member

DALE STEDMAN, Member

PAULA HAMMOND
Ex –Officio Member
Secretary of Transportation

JENNIFER ZIEGLER, Governor’s Designee

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

REEMA GRIFFITH, Executive Director

Assistant Attorney General